

June 16, 2004

Federal Communications Commission

Re: XM & Serious Satellite Content

To: Whom it may concern

I am writing to express my serious concern about radio satellite providers attempting to provide local market content as it relates to traffic and weather. Giving permission to satellite providers to do so would absolutely cripple local radio broadcasters ability to serve their communities and stay viable and have any hope of becoming profitable.

I work for a Clear Channel radio station in Fresno. Last weekend we raised more than 5,000 dollars through a jazz festival for a local Rotary chapter that will distribute those funds to things like kids summer camps, parks and playground projects. It took the efforts of an enormous amount of commercial inventory and at least 75 local broadcast employees physically working the event to make it a success. Last year our radio stations here in Fresno aired more than 1.4 million dollars worth of PSA's most of which highlighted local charities like the Margerie Mason Center (Batter Women shelter), The Fresno Hope Foundation (A no kill animal shelter), American Cancer Walk, The Poveralla House (A local homeless shelter) and the Community Burn Center and "Spare the Air Campaign" (an environmental effort) just to name a few.

Although these Satellite providers have a financially motivated desire to provide local content through weather and traffic, I guarantee they do not have a desire to provide local community service the way local radio stations do. Giving them the ability to do so will absolutely cripple traditional radio broadcasters therefore crippling the community service these stations currently proudly provide.

Don't do it!

Tim Rapp
General Sales Manager
Clear Channel Radio - Fresno